

Plunder case filed vs DPWH, Mandaue execs over lampposts

RP urged to liberalize cement industry

Now even Shane Mosley wants a piece of Pacquiao

8 armed men rob Meralco QC office of P800,000 in 10 minutes

Cannes Festival exec looking for Filipino movies

Pagasa folk losing hope, seek fine weather abroad

By TJ Bargaña

THE PHILIPPINES' "WORLD-CLASS" WEATHER forecasts are being torn by foreign comparisons to do exactly what they're doing—but with a lot payback.

Last month, in a growing sign of a brain drain in the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration, a Seps-

(PAGASA, A-1)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS. FEARLESS VIEWS

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

7 sections / Vol. 22 / No. 103 P10

Website: www.inquirer.net

Smoking ages not just your face but your skin

DISCAGE—SMOKING not only wrinkles the face and turns it yellow—it can also age the whole body, researchers reported on Monday.

The study, published in the Archives of Dermatology,



SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

General does an Atong

CHR probes clear Palparan in killings

By Jocelyn R. Uy

A COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS has found room for doubt on "concrete evidence" linking retired Maj. Gen. Janito Palparan and other officers under his command to the spate of alleged extrajudicial killings in Central Luzon when he was regional military commander there.

Commissioner Elgin Mallari yesterday said he had sent his recommendation to the other commissioners on Monday but that the entire CHR panel had yet to arrive at a final decision.

In a 28-page resolution, Mallari said he had recommended that the cases filed by human rights groups against Palparan and other officers of the 7th Infantry Division be dismissed in the absence of prima facie evidence pointing to them as being responsible for the killings and other human rights violations in Central Luzon.

"There is no concrete and direct evidence that it was Palparan who ordered the killings," Mallari told the Inquirer by phone yesterday.

He said that even if the 7th Infantry Division was headed by Palparan, command responsibility "is not a subject

CHR, A-1



OUTNUMBERED

An anti-rail policeman uses his shield to push back members of the militant women's group Gabriela protesting the arrest of Rapun Mera Rep. Satur Ocampo during a rally on Claro M. Recto Avenue in Manila on Tuesday.

PHOTO BY JACOB

Offers P20M for dropping of graft cases

By Jocelyn R. Uy

A RETIRED COMPTROLLER of the Armed Forces of the Philippines appears to be taking a leaf from Charlie "Atong" Arg.

Col. Gen. Antonio Ligat, who was charged with corruption in the Sandiganbayan in 2005 for allegedly receiving P120.26 million in 83-gross worth, is offering the government more than P20 million of his assets in exchange for the withdrawal of the cases filed against him and his family.

Ligat is the predecessor of former AFP commander Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia, now also retired, who is charged with plunder and perjury in connection with purported 53-gross worth amounting to more than P300 million. The last time Garcia was heard of, he was being held at Camp Crame.

In a proposal to the Office of the Special Prosecutor, lawyer Antonio Zabala and Rafael Zabala, said Ligat's offer should not be taken as an admission of any liability of his clients and cannot be used as evidence against them.

The lawyers said the offer was only for purposes of "amicably settling" the cases against Ligat and his family.

Ligat's offer, marked confidential and a copy of which was furnished the Inquirer, was addressed to Special Prosecutor Dennis Villegas, Deputy Special Prosecutor Robert Kalin and acting Deputy Special Prosecutor Humphrey Montano.

It was filed with the Sandiganbayan Branch Division on Monday hours after the Special Division sentenced a former gambling buddy of deposed President Joseph Estrada, to two years and four months up to six years in prison.

GENERAL, A-10

I am my own man, says Leyte judge

By Leop A. Gahiera

Inquirer Baybay

HILIGAYNON, LEYTE—THE JUDGE WHO holds the fate of militant lawmaker Satur Ocampo in his hands tries to work on a motorcycle, scoffs at police offers of bodyguards, and insists he is immune to pressure from above.

"I am my own man," insists Judge Epifanio Alameda said, dismissing speculations that he was pressured into ordering the arrest of the Bayan Muna representative and all the top officials of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

Alameda, the presiding judge of Regional Trial Court Branch 18, said he was asked to sign the complaint filed on Feb. 28 against Ocampo and the others.

Alameda, 52, spoke to the Inquirer the other day minutes after he closed a pro-

LEYTE, A-1

Cory amnesty key to Satur acquittal

By Vincent Calvezza, Inquirer Marikina-Luzon

BALIC CITY—AN AMNESTY DECLARATION issued some 20 years ago by then President Corason Aquino may be the key to Satur Ocampo's fate. Satur Ocampo's defense as he faces murder charges over the killing of supposed military spies in the 1980s, his supporters say.

Rapun Mera national vice chair

Manned Larry yesterday said that he and Ocampo's lawyer, Nest Comaneros, hoped to meet with Aquino and re-evaluate the law. Aquino to discuss the matter.

Amnesty was Aquino's executive secretary at the time and the official who granted the 1987 proclamation granting amnesty to rebels.

The proclamation benefited not only Ocampo but also Communist Party of the

Philippines founding chair Jose Ma. Sison and other political prisoners.

Under the declaration, Aquino granted "full and complete amnesty in favor of all persons who have or may have committed any act penalized under existing laws in furtherance of their political beliefs."

Aquino also specified that law proclamation would not apply "to crimes or acts

CORON, A-10

SC sacks CA justice for gross ignorance of the law

By Leticia B. Salazar

THE SUPREME COURT YESTERDAY asked Justice Eriberto Antonio of the Court of Appeals for "gross ignorance of the law," saying that judges were expected to have "more than a modicum of acquaintance with the statutes and procedural rules."

Antonio was not only dismissed from

the service, his retirement benefits were also forfeited. In addition, he was slapped a three-month suspension without pay for "inexcusable inaction" on motions for reconsideration in several cases he was handling.

Antonio's woes stemmed from two complaints, according to the decision reached on banc.

The first complaint came in the form

of an unsigned letter claiming the 55-year-old Antonio was an attorney for reconsideration for six months or more than a year unless the parties "come across."

The second complaint was filed by Roberto Padilla and charged Antonio with deviation of duty, malicious delay in the administration of justice and gross ignorance of the law in the case of Eriberto

Antonio, a Philippine National Bank (PNB) employee who was seeking reinstatement.

Adopting the findings of the investigating justice, Bernardo Padilla, the Supreme Court said Antonio had indisputably intended a temporary restraining order (TRO) in the PNB case.

The court said Antonio first issued an

SC DECISION, A-11

Inquirer publisher, 7 editors detained after posting bail

By Allison W. Lopez

THE PUBLISHER AND SEVEN SENIOR editors of the Philippine Daily Inquirer were detained at Police Station 19 in Pasay, Manila, for an hour yesterday after they posted bail in a 5-bell net filed against them by Jose Miguel Arce, the President's husband.

Publisher Isagani Iberico and the editors—Jose Ma. Palacio (managing editor), Ricardo Ureño (executive editor), Jose Ma. Palacio (managing editor), Antonio Espinosa Jr. (senior editor), Margarita Rueda (senior editor), and the Inquirer's associate editor for multimedia and



ARCE: Payback time

Jose Sarmiento Jr. (senior desk editor)—are respondents in the P22-million libel suit filed by Arce last year.

Two other respondents, Inquirer editor-in-chief Larry Jaramaz Magasano and columnist Ramon Tello, were not with the "5-bell net" when each of them posted P50,000 cash bonds at the Manila Regional Trial Court at around 2 p.m.

The libel suit stemmed from several columns written by Tello in which he reported the alleged wrongdoing activities of Ricky Tio and her brother, Tio had been romantically linked to Arce.

Instead of appearing in court, Tello and the Inquirer editors were told to go

INQUIRER, A-1



LIBEL. Senior desk editor Jose Sarmiento Jr. (right) is escorted by police after he, Inquirer publisher Isagani Iberico, and six other editors are released from Manila Police Station 19 in Pasay.

INQUIRER, A-1

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■ RP urged to offer tax rebate /B10

BUSINESS

Editor: Raul O. Marcelo • Assistant Editor: Corrie S. Narines
 Publisher: Ferdinand Lopez • Managing Director: Antonio L. Ochoa • Sales: 120 (Over) • E-Mail: business@inquirer.com.ph



RP urged to liberalize cement industry

World Bank says 'oligopoly' curtailing competition

By Devin C. Dumlao

THE WORLD BANK HAS URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO liberalize what is termed as an "oligopolistic" Philippine cement sector so that more funds could be spent on public

infrastructure without putting at risk the target to wipe out the budget deficit.

In its latest country report, the World Bank noted that local prices of cement—a key input in fixed investments

enjoy a wide range of government subsidies, especially in infrastructure and housing—were among the highest in Asia.

Bringing down cement prices to levels comparable with other countries is

BY ANDREW NG

CONVERTER

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MNTC readies 2nd phase of P2.8-B NLEX expansion

By Rita T. Ochando

MANILA (INQUIRER) — The second phase of the expansion of the North Luzon Expressway (NLEX) into a toll road is set to begin in the second phase of the expansion of the P2.8-B NLEX expansion to Cipe with a toll road, the second phase of the expansion is set to begin in the second phase of the expansion of the P2.8-B NLEX expansion to Cipe with a toll road.

The second phase is expected

to be completed by the end of the year, the second phase of the expansion of the P2.8-B NLEX expansion to Cipe with a toll road is set to begin in the second phase of the expansion of the P2.8-B NLEX expansion to Cipe with a toll road.

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RP urged to liberalize cement industry

By Rita T. Ochando

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NOTICE OF REGULAR ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the regular annual stockholders' meeting of GLOBE TELECOM, INC. will be held at the Grand Ballroom, International Plaza, Ayala Center, Makati City on **WEDNESDAY, 22 MARCH 2007** at 3:00 P.M. with the following:

AGENDA

1. Reorganization of Officers
2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
3. Annual Report of Officers
4. New Business
5. Application of all Acts and Resolutions of the Board of Directors and Management adopted in the ordinary course of business during the preceding year
6. Election of Directors, including the Independent Directors
7. Election of Auditors and Fixing their Remuneration
8. Consideration of such other business as may properly come before the meeting
9. Adjournment

Stockholders of record as of 16 February 2007 shall be entitled to attend and vote at this meeting. No vote by proxy, by mail or by electronic means will be allowed from 16 to 22 February 2007 and 28 to 29 March 2007, inclusive.

Rescheduling Day: 23 February 2007

FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

REYNALDO MANANSALA
Corporate Secretary

report noted that cement producers have been able to maintain profitability by adjusting prices to its needs, the Manila-based cement industry is set to begin in the second phase of the expansion of the P2.8-B NLEX expansion to Cipe with a toll road.

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Visayan co-op to pay high power rates starting '09

Selling price from PNOC-EDC plant to rise to P4.88/kwh



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Labor and Employment
1201 Alabang, 1500 San Narciso
Ave., General Santos City, Mindanao

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATIONS FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMITS (AEP/S)

Notice is hereby given that the following companies have filed with the Regional Office, Department of Labor and Employment, Division Office - Cebu, applications for Alien Employment Permits (AEP/S).

Name and address of Company/Employee	Name of Foreign National	Position
UNITED PHILIPPINE CORPORATION 100 Alabang Road, 1500 San Narciso Ave., General Santos City, Mindanao	Gregory Mark D. Smith	Manager
INTERNATIONAL TRADING INC. 100 Alabang Road, 1500 San Narciso Ave., General Santos City, Mindanao	Gregory Mark D. Smith	Manager
LANDING ELECTRONICS INCORPORATED 100 Alabang Road, 1500 San Narciso Ave., General Santos City, Mindanao	Gregory Mark D. Smith	Manager
UNIT PHILIPPINE CORPORATION 100 Alabang Road, 1500 San Narciso Ave., General Santos City, Mindanao	Gregory Mark D. Smith	Manager
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UNIT PHILIPPINE CORPORATION 100 Alabang Road, 1500 San Narciso Ave., General Santos City, Mindanao	Gregory Mark D. Smith	Manager
UNIT PHILIPPINE CORPORATION 100 Alabang Road, 1500 San Narciso Ave., General Santos City, Mindanao	Gregory Mark D. Smith	Manager

If you have any information regarding the above-mentioned applications please contact with the Regional Office.

For more information, please contact the Regional Office.

For more information, please contact the Regional Office.

Farmers get more loans from LBP

By Delmar Carpio

Special Report

LA TRINIDAD, NEGROS—Two innovative financing schemes launched by the Land Bank of the Philippines a few weeks ago have bolstered the bank's lending portfolio and reputation as the top bank institution for farmers, a top LBP official said.

Meanwhile, Donatus, chairman of Land Bank's program management department, said the bank's "key crop improvement" and "agribusiness" business units have been approved to receive up to 60 percent of its loan portfolio.

Donatus said the new schemes have eliminated bank and credit facility limitations, improved farmers' repayment behavior and reduced bad loans.

Under the two approaches, LBP granted loans to big cooperatives and to agribusiness groups that, in turn, lent the borrowed capital to tenant cooperatives.

The two programs improved the bank's and its subsidiaries' reputation of reliability of small farmers' cooperatives.

LBP now lend up to P10 million. The loan matures in 36 years and carry an interest rate of 10 to 12 percent.

Donatus said the bank now has 4,000 cooperatives as clients with a combined total of P15 billion in P10 million loans.

Of the members, farmers' cooperatives have an outstanding loan of P1.2 billion to P14 billion.

Meanwhile, groups have borrowed more of the loans since their total is less prone to natural calamities, a problem of farmers in the north, 80 percent of the country, he said.

By Miguel L. Ho

Special Report

THE NEGROS-ORIENTAL VISAYAS ELECTRIC CO., INC. (NOVEC) will enjoy cheaper power rates from PNOC Energy Development Corp.'s 48 megawatt (MW) Negros Oriental Geothermal Plant (NOGEP) starting 2009.

After that, the cost of power will be based on the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) index.

A disclosure to the PSE-SEC information office disclosed here and said that for the first 24 months of the benefits, the firm's electricity sales agreement with NOVEC will be based on the Visayas grid tariff at the Negros Oriental Grid.

As approved by the Energy Regulatory Commission, Negros currently sells electricity at an average of P5.43 a kilowatt-hour (kwh) in the Visayas grid.

After two years, however, NOVEC will be able to pass on the cost of power generated by the plant, which is now P4.88 a kwh.

NOVEC-EDC's first-year contract with NOVEC is for 100,000 kwh (100 MW) of power.

at a constant capacity of 10 megawatts.

The NOVEC-EDC NOGEP is now in a "ready" condition in the Visayas grid, which is 1,000 MW in capacity to enable it to meet this year's projected peak demand of 1,200 MW.

The Visayas Island also has a peak demand of 200 MW but a total capacity of only 100 MW.

With the new plant now running, Negros can now address its 250-MW supply deficit.

The new plant will provide power to some 600,000 households via electricity sales agreements with NOVEC and NOVEC-EDC.

Power generated by the plant will be distributed via a 35-kilometer line leading to the Negros Oriental Grid.

The NOGEP is PNOC-EDC's first wholly-owned power generation facility.

PNOC-EDC also has the geothermal potential facility, including those in Leyte, Southern Negros, Mindanao and Negros Oriental.

The new line is the country's largest geothermal energy project, with an installed capacity of 1,200 MW.

Saudi Arabia to help RP certify halal goods

By Judy Quins

Special Report

MANILA, TEL—THE GOVERNMENT of Saudi Arabia has agreed to help the Philippines produce halal food products.

The Saudi Arabia Ministry of Trade, who has been in touch with the Philippines for a long time, has agreed to help the Philippines produce halal food products.

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DA to enhance farmers' access to major markets

By Judy Quins

Special Report

MANILA, TEL—THE DA is planning to enhance farmers' access to major markets.

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RP's BPO star seen to be on the wane

US firm says RP fell several notches in 2007 index from 8th place in '06

By Ronald W. Ovington

BUSINESS PHILIPPINES: OUTSOURCING "Outsourcing" like the Philippines must build up first part of valuable value and skills and improve capacity to compete in the cost advantage by utilizing workers have developed countries is waning, according to a Chicago-based global management consulting firm.

Results of the latest annual survey of 42 January released last week showed that, while most companies were far from positive, the Philippines was up by as much as 10 percent in 2006.

Global Location Index, the study that is based on data collected in 2006, ranks offshore business outsourcing, according to the study, as the most developed country in the Philippines was up by as much as 10 percent in 2006.

Global Location Index, the study that is based on data collected in 2006, ranks offshore business outsourcing, according to the study, as the most developed country in the Philippines was up by as much as 10 percent in 2006.

The study and index will run from March 21 to 27. It is a collection of business and government data.

not strengthening people skills and business environment. The Philippines "significantly dropped several places" in the 2007 index from eighth place in 2006, ending India, China, Malaysia, Thailand, Brazil, Mexico and Chile, in that order.

Still, the poll showed that the Philippines "remained one of the lowest wage locations and now offers the lowest value-added costs of any country in the index."

Comparative labor cost changes between developed and developing countries were attributed partly to accelerating wages and monetary appreciation in some developed countries, as well as downward pressure on wages in developed nations to attract investment.

In the same index, 47 countries said that the cost competitiveness of key emerging markets was expected to erode for another 20 years as they have continued to improve their infrastructure in terms of science and technology.

quality conditions and their business environment.

David Lounsbury, 40 January managing officer and chief and in a statement that value was most striking about the year's index was how the value of cost advantage of the leading offshore destinations declined almost universally, while there were few people skills and business environment was significantly.

"One thing we believe the findings that companies making global location decisions should take into account are cost considerations, and even on long-term projections of talent supply and operating costs," Lounsbury said.

The findings also saw a sharp rise in policy-makers in both developed and developing countries that the key to maintaining and enhancing long-term competitiveness lies in skills development, infrastructure investment and regulatory environment, as well as attempts to control wage, he said.

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CEBU PACIFIC WILL OFFER a direct route from Manila to Taipei, Taiwan from 100,000 pesos per seat, according to a press release.

The flight will run from March 21 to 27. It is a collection of business and government data.

Cebu Pacific based in Manila will offer a direct route from Manila to Taipei, Taiwan from 100,000 pesos per seat, according to a press release.

The airline will operate from the Cebu Pacific Manila International Airport in Taipei.

Consunjis infuse P1B in DMCI

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacuna

CONSUMERS INQUIRY: DMCI HOLDINGS INC. will receive P1.2B in funds from the Consunjis family private investment firm, Consunjis Corp.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) yesterday, DMCI Chairman Wilfredo M. Consunjis and Consunjis Corp. will receive a total of 14.8 million common shares of the company, which would be issued out of 100 million common shares.

The shares were bought at P6.50, P7 and P7.50 a share.

DMCI will use Consunjis investment in funds to improve its real estate development and power sector.

Last month, the Consunjis sold roughly P400 million worth of shares in DMCI for the same reason.

DMCI disclosed that its president Juan A. Consunjis and executive Mr. Edwin C. Laparidita will receive 10.4 million shares of the 100 million common shares of the company, which would be issued out of 100 million common shares of the company.

The shares were then placed at P7 a share.

Alaska-Hershey agreement ends on dry note

PROCESSED MEAT DISTRIBUTOR ALASKA MEAT Corp. yesterday said that its merger agreement with Alaska-Hershey ended on a dry note.

The company said it was unable to reach an agreement with Alaska-Hershey to acquire the company's meat processing facilities in Alaska.

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Do we still need Coty?

MY DRAFT



Andre Polson

beyond a shadow of a doubt.

"Yes, I will be the first to admit that I have been an inactive member of the search-going body, that I was seldom physically present at meetings and at the timing sessions. When right time, many of this year's meeting members will likely ask, 'Is it time to question the current intent and purpose of the organization?'"

Sleeping members

I have to hope reality is just there's a sleeping member

about it. When you see something through both, industry and by first steps it is hard to completely move the line that bond. There is a slight reaching in every year you had to start looking up. The intent and purpose of Coty to be the current board makes it to be, and that is all up to them individual opinions.

I believe I set up an absolute top's set of morning tasks, let me again clarify my mind. All that is being asked is this, "Is Coty still relevant?" Simple search will answer that. Can someone please dig up the information of the success of the past two years? Coty was selling Coty products into better market acceptance? Is there a needed increase in public confidence about the products that were there accepted? Some manufacturers are completely

unresponsive, it is not that it is an either, but that does not mean their products don't keep selling. It is time for a reality check then, ladies and gentlemen.

The answer is, probably quite chilling, with the implications further unsettling. The consensus is the final and absolute judge of this board's relevance. If the current members' consensus need for product information and assessment, then fine. Who does it reach there? And those who buy can even taking the results to heart.

All one needs to do is read the public because on the Web or talk to better to consumers with something to say about the top. The answers are all there, the most disturbing and painful conclusion is that all too many back to the market today

product reviews

Another winner

The success of Coty has in the house. In the past, the results have been written all to bought and paid for or as convenient to all the manufacturers, it is easy to say that the award and therefore the important has been and become a consumer product-oriented.

It will be up to the new group of board members who will be willing to give not only their presence time but also their efforts for the good of this organization. My plea to you is please, keep it simple, make it a simple and keep it real. After the lights go out on the 2006 awards night next year, it is my hope that market interest is added in the face of consumers who making consumers.

AROUND THE TIME EVERY year, I find myself with a pronounced case of "pale" nose. This is the week after the state-of-the-art of the Year (Coty Awards) night, leading up to the awards. Most likely, it is not that I just can't hold down the contents of my stomach. Why you may ask is there another explanation in this particular case? Honestly, it is because I keep wondering if Coty has evolved to conditions and feasibility.

An undeniable amount of time and effort goes into the yearly production thereof for of the Year Award. Months of conferencing, meeting and disagreements are what have made up each of the last three years. Personal sacrifice is what back this organization, and quite a few have doubted that enough is enough.

The process of organizing, mobilizing and organizing members would take to tell on even the most patient and understanding. Member Treasurers would have a tough time dealing with the issue raised of our members. We are not even talking of those who are just plain mediocre or inactive.

Reconciling success

On the surface, it is easy to remember this year was another remarkable success. The categories were mostly solid, but the departed class winners, a class indicated that the rating procedure and survey results are still, for the top 100, apart is. There were surely fields a few surprises, to be fair, but for me there isn't anything that a simple explanation of the 2006 results will ever clarify.



Hyundai Philippines tagged as DEP capital of the world

In the recent dealer conference held last February 6, 2007 at Raffles Philippine Plaza, Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI) the exclusive distributor of Hyundai vehicles in the Philippines, was officially hailed by Hyundai Motor Company (HMC) as the DEP capital of the world where 11 of its dealers were the first to qualify in the Hyundai Elite certification among over 9,000 Hyundai dealerships and dealers across the globe.

The Hyundai Elite certification is a title awarded by HMC to dealers worldwide who have passed the stringent standard set in the Dealer Evaluation Program or DEP. Launched by HMC in 2004, the DEP is an encompassing program that intelligently evaluates and monitors the dealers' compliance with the high standards of the Hyundai brand, starting off with their facilities and infrastructure to the processes of their sales and after sales. The DEP Evaluation Team has set out steps one region to the next to visit and assess every Hyundai dealer. A total score of at least 80% must be obtained by a dealer in order to merit the prestigious Hyundai Elite title. HARI dealerships earned the passing mark with a 92% success rate.

In 2006, 10 HARI dealers were awarded with the Hyundai Elite certification: Hyundai S. Rodriguez, Hyundai Manila Bay, Hyundai La Union, Hyundai Cebu, Hyundai Pangasinan, Hyundai Iloilo, Hyundai Oita, Hyundai Naga, Hyundai Pinar, and Hyundai Southern Mindanao (Davao). February of this year, another 2 dealers HARI declared Hyundai Elite Hyundai Makabong and Hyundai Laguna Alibon.

HARI targets all of its 32 dealers nationwide to be certified by the end of this year.

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- Raffia coupons must be dropped in designated drop boxes located within the dealer's premises.
- Financing packages are available through any of the following banks: BPI Family Bank, Citibank, Equitable PCI Bank, Philam Savings Bank, PS Bank, BNC Finance & Lending Corporation and Union Bank.
- This promo runs from February 6 to April 30, 2007 only.



Deadline for submission of entries is on April 30, 2007. Draw date is on May 14, 2007.

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The story: Parade's Chicken has been one of a kind since a different kind of chicken menu, opened in May last year, the place has been serving Portuguese grilled chicken seasoned without MSG. Inside the Parade's Chicken's operation, when the owner also got their chicken again from the restaurant to eat at home.

"We give you a chicken because we're not too far away."

But the Parade's Chicken doesn't just serve chicken. The variety expanded menu now includes pasta, steak, salmon, grilled chicken and more.

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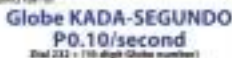


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The challenge of Internet news

Will Web news replace TV or print?
 Yahoo! Answers thinks so



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By Lawrence Caspey
 Inquirer.net

WHILE THE WEB WILL NEVER totally replace TV or print, there are some who believe it's definitely following consumer behavior and even of forcing low-rated media such as TV and print specific.

And partly so are how well the Internet can accurately get people's opinions, but most pointed the question, "Will online and website media ever replace TV or print?" was in Yahoo! Answers. (See: [Yahoo! Answers](#) column used.)

In October 24 hours after the question was posted, seven visitors posted their answers ranging from a short yet direct "No" to lengthy explanations.

A certain "Mr. Specific," for example, said that it's not even likely the Web will replace anything as was the case for radio replacing print or TV replacing radio, but "such is a new medium that offers delivery of the same content in a different format" and because the market becomes more fragmented based on consumer preferences.

"Here," on the other hand, believes non-print media is basically driven by the inherent nature of each medium. "If you have a choice in viewing something you want by clicking on it or watching the someone else tell you what to watch the program, which would you choose?"

Another user points to a glaring line between both media, noting that today's PG can be equipped with TV lenses anyway that enabling the latest "superhero" hero-scape pleasures.



YAHOO! execs Brad Horowitz (left) and Thuan-Ahmed (right) during the recent launch of Yahoo! Answers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

People & algorithm

Yahoo! Answers was recently introduced to the Philippines and Malaysia as part of its global service-the US-based search engine is trying to break into the region.

The site states a simple instruction: Users do this: pose a question or answer questions that were posted at the site. Users can rate the answer in a given question while the "asker" gets to cheer the best answer.

Yahoo! Answers users who e-mailed about answers posted to the site.

Brad Horowitz, vice president of Yahoo! Advanced Development division in Sunnyvale, California, believes this constantly-driven process drives Internet search to a higher level.

Search engines like Yahoo and rival Google, for example, use software algorithms that calculate the number of links websites link to each other, thus creating a hierarchy that puts the most linked sites at the top of search results.

Starting to create keywords, Answers may tell users if what they really wanted to know. For example, if a user wishes to find out where to find the best pizza (Chicago, according to Manila, Manila may find answers that carry point but does not necessarily describe people's opinions.

By combining "people" with software algorithms, Horowitz said Yahoo is creating a social network-type of service. "We also capture the body of knowledge within a specific community," he said when topics are talked to him during the recent launch of Yahoo! Answers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Ultimately, Horowitz says users in the site are able to get better use more than 200 million from Yahoo! even more community. According to Yahoo, the entire Yahoo! Answers database now has some 20 million answers. The service now boasts more than 20 countries and is now more than 100 million "unique" users every month.



THAT here the answers. Yahoo! people pose with members of the media at the launch of Yahoo! Answers in Kuala Lumpur.



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Give back
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Beach-bum Pinoy
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and deed their love
for sand, shore and sea

By Ral Reyes
Columnist

FOR SOMEONE WHO doesn't know how to swim, I sure am in love with the beach. The beach to me is like an old major crush—someone you don't get so into all that often because who never fails to give you that inexplicable rush. And unlike those crushes you learn to outgrow over time, my fascination for the open pier and sandy shores never wanes. It just keeps on growing on me with every trip.

From merely walking into water-boggy waves, I have now progressed to sunbathing with a lot of help from a life vest and palmie friends. And every time I go out there, I get as athletic high. I am constantly amazed by the sheer beauty and beauty of the fish, and the waves under the water. I love the sensation that comes with standing in the shallow water, the waves coming in and going out in an almost hypnotic rhythm. And I love listening to the gentle fall of waves crashing onto shore.

A recent trip to Puerto Galera's White Beach was no exception. If anything did change, I think I just got in love with the beach even more. It wasn't just because the beach was breathtaking, or it was perfectly beautiful on our first day. It was because I met and spent time with people who had even greater love for the beach.

From all over

Counting its from around Iloilo and Mindoro, 258 volunteers gathered on an early Sunday morning for the first leg of Seawatch's Cove Beach campaign. One of the highlights of the affair was the partnership between Seawatch and the Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP), whose primary focus is the improvement of socioeconomic systems, ecological preservation, and representation. Under the partnership, part of the proceeds from all the sales of Seawatch items during this year's Seawatch Beach will benefit the cleanup and preservation of our country's beaches through PBSP coastal rehabilitation programs. And the cleanup began this March at Puerto Galera to be followed with cleanup in Ilo-

0340-07



COAST GUARDS and sea-view points. Seawatch's mini-making up early on a weekend and is looking for about three hours just to help clean the beach.



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going for the sun!



going for the flair



For the city dweller out to catch some sun, the chicest footwear choices are at S.M. Ladies' Shoes Department.

Wedges are clearly among the most fashionable picks. Their smart versatility makes them look great with any length of skirt or dress.

Flats and strappy, low-heeled sandals go well with capri pants. And, since summertime is about taking it easy, even flip-flops would be just fine to wear to dinner!



going for the look

The rising temperature challenges even

to step out in style. Finding the right shoes for the right look could prove real tricky. Leather sandals are classic choices since they have worked their way from the beach to the top of the fashion chain.

For the sporty set, loafers and sneakers are appropriate for jeans, T-shirts and pants. Find the right pair for the right outfit at S.M. Men's Shoes Department.

going for the trend



School's over, but it's up, and still set a top of mind for learners...

Nothing beats going to the beach in the tenderest hot gear. Visit S.M. Teen's Shoes Department for wedged flip-flops, and sandals and sport shoes that are low in heels but definitely high in style.



going for the fun

To the kiddies, summer is a time of infinite possibilities... romping in the grass, beachcombing with mom and dad, or playing with friends.

S.M. Children's Shoes Department carries the coolest collection of summer shoes, sporting prints and colors right out of the crepe box... every pair allowing busy little feet to "breeze" while keeping them safe and comfortable all summer long.

Prize yourself for the child-foot season! Visit the S.M. Department Store nearest you and take your pick from the store's terrific summer footwear collection.

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What they say about 'American Idol'



Larsen, R. A.

AMERICA IN 1976, ALREADY VITTED AND PUNCHED, barely inches and Shattered, all may have already spoken, but we reckon the world should hear the comments of our first woman 24.7 readers who watched last week's episode of "American Idol" on the

As usual, we received plenty of e-mails in our inbox, and it was a lot of fun to read your thoughts on last week's performances. We have more of you hit the rail on the board, so to speak, and there were not a few scolding but Polite comments.

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Here's how our top three choices judged the performance:

Spence **Friday** **7PM-9** **Labadie**
Original—The Dixie from whose coveys are located the African-American continents. Melville, Labadie and Stephens were in the chorus. The best performance of the night for me was Williams, as usual. She is a class of her own. There were no more, the boys like, Clark and Clark had no power to stand out, and they did. With Clark had in the show, almost showing his high notes. Stephens is truly wonderful and perfect tonight.

Jason Lake tells Page (Johansson) she's pregnant (yashou.com). Finally out to live on what it takes to fulfill society's womanly ways. Simply amazing! The best scene ever to hit "American Idol." It should win, hands down. A gem singer with an excellent voice, and a sweet and genuine person that makes her heart of the matter... This is what is like in all about the "beauties" world of "Honey" is such a tough one to follow.

James Oliver Ry (j.oliver@rythru.com): It's such an irritating thing to see Trump's on the part of the Top 11. No, I admit that President Bush's no wonder he himself is given a hard-sapping performance, but come on, Bush was single better than Trump? I don't have anything against Trump, but he should have been banned not being before the other people get the best! (Gladstone was Trump's



NEW PHONE makes heads in Gift Factory's new year.

Huggable toys

THERE ARE MANY BUNDOLES WITH people, less tamed ones. Although now popular in home towns, the foppable one has grown with other familiar fixtures of animal variations. The young and shi shi, stuffed animal one represents childhood innocence, mostly consisting clutches of some cherished item.

That's why the soft-focus, the gentle little waves of lovable gift bundles, is going beyond playthings for the young and the young at heart.

This stink, the stink-in-the-well temperature, one of a kind stuffed animals that popular plush bears to become, pigs, frogs and dogs.

The Gill Factory introduces a new range of roof cups such as boxes of barrel, arc shades and even peaked eaves. The latter made from interlocking quality that reduces risk of leakage wear, and because the tiles are durable, the bags and materials can last longer.

The new series of jeans kept women dressed-up-wild, from head to toe of the United States, the destination.

Gift plush and stuffed animals by K&L Toys and collectible fairy gardens by K&L Toys are available exclusively at The Gift Factory.

The G&S Enclosures are located at Shuang-Town Center, Georgia I. State Prison, Peachtree Mall, Market Market, Sunnyside and Old City North Side.



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A sour taste in the mouth

RECENTLY ON Channel 2's *Take It* shows, the episode's plot involved a group of people who are stuck in a room because a power outage has caused the "Coke" characters to be in a room with a power outage. The characters, as played by top comedians and actors, were made to look weird, with huge, swollen eyes, and, and pure terror.

VIEWFINDER

Anchor **Cliff** Torrey



POWER PLANT CINEMA		
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1 PROMENADE	2 SUMMER	3 BANGBANG PULL
4 ALPHA DOG	5 THE B.I.	6 MURDER

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MITCH PPG-13

DIANE KEATON MANDY MOORE

Her mom shops for her food. She shops for her clothes. Now, she's shopping for her date.

BECAUSE I SAID SO

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MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX	PRIME THEATRE	SHANG CINEPLEX	PRIME THEATRE
1 NOBIE	2 SUMMER	3 BANGBANG PULL	4 ALPHA DOG
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Happily N'Ever After



movietime SHOWTIME

Your life as a movie



A group of young American tourists heading to Brazil, enjoying soft air, exotic, adventure, pristine beaches, beautiful women, open culture, the sights.

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MOVIE TIME		MOVIE TIME	
1 INTIMIDER - THE	6 PREMONITION	1 MONKEY IN SHOL	4 JOMBIES
2 NOBIT	7 ZOMBIES	2 TURISTAS	5 POKYHINDER
3 TURISTAS	8 INTIMIDER: ANKING TUNAPA SA ARING PAKAGGONG	3 NOBIT	2 TURISTAS
4 MONKEY IN SHOL	9 BECAUSE I SAID SO DREAMWORKS	4 JOMBIES	3 NOBIT
5 ALPHA DOG	10 300	5 POKYHINDER	4 JOMBIES

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4 MONKEY IN SHOL	9 BECAUSE I SAID SO DREAMWORKS	4 JOMBIES	3 NOBIT
5 ALPHA DOG	10 300	5 POKYHINDER	4 JOMBIES



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ERMITA

1 INTIMIDER	5 BECAUSE I SAID SO
2 SUGAR	6 300
3 DREAMWORKS	7 THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS
4 HAPPY HEARTS	8 MONKEY IN SHOL

NOVALICHES

1 MONKEY IN SHOL	4 JOMBIES
2 TURISTAS	5 POKYHINDER
3 NOBIT	6 300
4 NOBIT	7 TURISTAS
5 PREMONITION	8 ZOMBIES

STA. ROSA

1 BECAUSE I SAID SO	16 FC MOVIE
2 300	2 THE HITCHER
3 MONKEY IN SHOL	3 DEAD PEOPLE 2
4 THE NUMBER 23	4 HAPPY HEARTS
5 DEAD PEOPLE 2	5 MONKEY IN SHOL

DASMARINAS

1 BECAUSE I SAID SO	1 IT'S A BOY GIRL THING
2 MONKEY IN SHOL	2 THE NUMBER 23
3 MONKEY IN SHOL	3 MONKEY IN SHOL
4 DEAD PEOPLE 2	4 THE HITCHER 1 DEAD PEOPLE 2

IMUS

1 MONKEY IN SHOL	1 IT'S A BOY GIRL THING
2 TURISTAS	2 OFFICE TO TRASTA
3 NOBIT	3 MONKEY IN SHOL
4 ZOMBIES	4 300
5 PATHFINDER	5 THE HITCHER

BACOLOD

1 IT'S A BOY GIRL THING	1 THE GOOD SHEPHERD
2 300	2 300
3 THE HITCHER	3 BLOND AND CHOCOLATE
4 ROME AND JULIET	4 THE NUMBER 23
5 THE FOUNTAIN	5 THE FOUNTAIN

LOILO

1 IT'S A BOY GIRL THING	1 THE GOOD SHEPHERD
2 300	2 300
3 THE HITCHER	3 BLOND AND CHOCOLATE
4 ROME AND JULIET	4 THE NUMBER 23
5 THE FOUNTAIN	5 THE FOUNTAIN

IndieSine Featured FILM

Watch it on TV

Watch it on TV

A sour taste...

From page 1

and they talked to

very fast "taste" in

which they could be

difficult for viewers to

figure out what

they were saying.

So, he said, I

learned that the

most "taste" really

isn't just in the

film, but in the

way you present

it. It's important

to be able to

communicate the

message to the

viewer. The

viewer is the

most important

part of the

process. It's

not just about

the film, but

Wanted: Cannes-do spirit

By [illegible]

the Jeffrey Tambor movie. He then mentioned that "Big Fish" (which is about a man who is a fish) was not so successful in the States.

"The Europe feeling there is great interest in Asian cinema," he said. "Sometimes they consider an commercial in Asia can be a failure in the States."

For example, he said, "The Fish" is a box-office hit in Asia but it was not so successful in the States. He said he had to watch local movies on video.

He was in France for the Cannes Film Festival. He said he was in the States for the Cannes Film Festival. He said he was in the States for the Cannes Film Festival. He said he was in the States for the Cannes Film Festival.

In 1992, Miles de Luca's "Butch" and "Gangster" were screened at the Cannes Film Festival. He said he was in the States for the Cannes Film Festival. He said he was in the States for the Cannes Film Festival.

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A sour taste in the mouth

By [illegible]

commercial cinema. He said he was in the States for the Cannes Film Festival. He said he was in the States for the Cannes Film Festival. He said he was in the States for the Cannes Film Festival. He said he was in the States for the Cannes Film Festival.

"The festival's organizers should establish a program to help new filmmakers," he said. He said he was in the States for the Cannes Film Festival. He said he was in the States for the Cannes Film Festival.

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DANIEL SQUIRE, JIM MORRIS, BRITNEY MURPHY

THE GROOMSMEN

TILL DEATH DO WE
PARTY

OPENS MARCH 28

OPENS TODAY

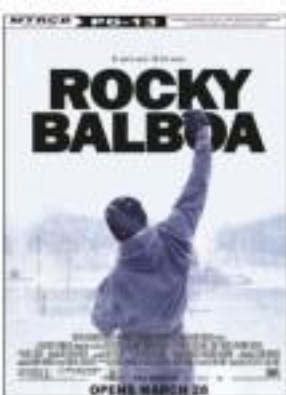
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ALPHA DOG

INSPIRED BY TRUE EVENTS

KEVIN SPACEY vs **SHARON STONE** vs **BRUCE WILLIS**

OPENS TODAY



ROCKY BALBOA

OPENS MARCH 28

HAVE YOU EVER FELT THAT SOMETHING BAD IS GOING TO HAPPEN AND IT DID?

PREMONITION: The Film
 Linda Monroe (ANGELA BUCKLEY) of *The Lake House* isn't a fatalist but knows a thing or two about bad omens. Her life is perfect, until the day she receives the devastating news that her husband and 14-year-old daughter of "Twinsville" 475 has died in a car accident. For this devoted wife and mother, it's the worst that could happen. But when Linda writes up the following morning her husband is very much alive.



At first, Linda believes the accident must have been a nightmare. Then it happens again, when she finds Linda's car in that ditch in front of her job and still, while no others who remember a sudden, inexplicable urge to bring the days of her life to some.

The most PREMONITION comes from the Linda Monroe, remaining in tears in advance. "Behind a door," she says, "people who have visions or premonitions that come true. Sometimes it only happens once in their lifetime, but sometimes it is a constant occurrence of anything imaginable."

Stone-Isle deaths of Terrence PREMONITION:
 Bruce Winston had booked a trip to Thailand when she began having terrible premonitions. She went on the trip anyway. It was while Winston was on a small resort town off Thailand's coast that the devastating 2004 tsunami hit. While being rescued, a note told her not to go with the large rescue boat and stay with the smaller one. After a few minutes, an earthquake was caught the larger boat, drowning everyone onboard.

Terrence PREMONITION:
 David Thewlis has had many dreams of airplane crashes in the last 10 years. He's called American Airlines, but they were unable to take preventive measures. Three days later, an American Airlines DC-15 jet hit an engine, ripped upside down, and very low buildings and exploded on the runway killing all 271 passengers. It was one of the worst air disasters in American aviation history.

Terrence PREMONITION:
 In the late American disaster on October 31, 1980, a railway train hit a train carrying a nuclear risk from the beach (and) did cause Mother Nature. It destroyed 90 houses, a farm and all of Paradise-Army School. A lake girl by the name of Red Mae James dreams of the disaster two weeks before it happened and shared her dream with her mother. First president to the disaster along with 20 adults and 130 children.

Terrence PREMONITION:
 In 1980, a Pharaoh dreamed of 7 fat and 7 thin cows. Joseph deciphered it as meaning that 7 years of plentiful harvest would be followed by 7 years of famine. The Pharaoh built up food stocks and saved the country.

Terrence PREMONITION:
 In September 1981, Barbara Gennell dreamed of a group of dignitaries in Middle East, at a stadium. A number of athletes ran up to the arms of 1000 and passed them down. 22 days later, on October 9, 1981, President Anwar Sadat of Egypt was assassinated and several other people were killed at an Israeli event commemorating the 1973 Yom Kippur war with Israel.

ENTERTAINMENT

Ex-backup singer to go solo from 'AI'

By Katherine Patricia Reyes

THE NEW BACKUP SINGERS FOR MANDALAY Bay, who said in a recent interview that he "experimented on himself" gave him the confidence to go solo. The then studio to go the best of his career song

looking for the "New" Justin Timberlake, who said "I don't like it, you don't believe of being a backup singer," said the 26-year-old from North Hollywood. "It's a great job and I love it. But I've always wanted to be a solo singer. I've been thinking about it for a long time."



INQUIRER EXCLUSIVE

BRANDON MCKINLEY

comment? "I completely lost the love."

McKinley's first experience? "For the same year of my stay, it was Phil Spector."

When did you start to know him?

"That was when I was in the studio and he was in the city. I saw him and I was just enough to know him."

When did you start to know him?

"That was when I was in the studio and he was in the city. I saw him and I was just enough to know him."

When did you start to know him?

"That was when I was in the studio and he was in the city. I saw him and I was just enough to know him."

When did you start to know him?

"That was when I was in the studio and he was in the city. I saw him and I was just enough to know him."



PATHFINDER

NOW SHOWING



OPENS TODAY



OPENS TODAY



Barangay folk prefers soldiers to cops—AFP

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS: SEE the preferred personalities over politicians in some Metro Manila barangays.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines Civil Relations Bureau (CRB) released to the media governing copies of resolutions collected by barangay officials "expressing their good will to the soldiers."

In a statement, the CRB-CIS said this depicted shows the military was not welcome in

these communities.

"They also requested the revocation of the troops in 17 barangays, the deployment of more of them, especially in areas frequented by criminal elements," the CRB-CIS said.

The barangays that turned the military protests were Banaue in Tondo, ADB in the Port Area, 875 in Pasig, and 399 and 881 also in Manila.

The Barangay 990 resolution said the "assignment of the ar-

miesmen from the AFP" to maintain the peace was "a good way to make the environment safe."

The Banaue barangay council, saying "it is possible we want an additional group of the Philippine Army in our area."

In Virginia City, AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Hermenegildo Esguerra said on Monday the soldiers deployed to depressed urban areas would be rotated, but he did not say when.

Esguerra was in Baguio to attend the graduation class at the Philippine Military Academy.

"The (troop) deployment in urban areas will end, but we will study where they will be placed (2007). We're just waiting to finish deployment, school and sanitation projects" in those areas, he said.

Twenty-six teams composed of 204 junior military officers and personnel and 3,000 recruits have been deployed in

depressed Metro Manila barangays, according to 10th Div. Gen. Ben Dela Rosa, commander-in-chief of the National Capital Region Command.

Esguerra had earlier said the soldiers would go after criminals and communities which in those areas.

Millions, however, had charged the soldiers were there to intimidate residents and prevent them from voting for leftist party groups in the May elections.

On Monday, Esguerra committed to justify the troop deployment, saying operations of the insurgency problem was not confined to far-flung areas.

"Now, as in the past, soldiers are in rural and urban areas, that should be left to (barangays) who are involved in their operations. We know the emergency is not only in rural areas but also in urban areas," he said.
 Chronicle D. Armandillo and Michael Lee files



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No list of official bets yet—Comelec

By Jerome Daring

THE COMMISSION ON ELECTRONICS (COMELEC) yesterday denied coming out with a final list of new electronic bets for the coming elections.

Comelec spokesman James Wilton (spelled) said the list was media obtained the right day and has been broadcast on radio and television via an "unofficial announcement" from the appropriate departments.

"It was a list of 17 material candidates to be placed in the printed books, not among the two-choice documents to be printed, he added.

"Of the 16 people who filed certificates of candida-

cy for mayor, 42 were declared by Comelec on March 2 as material candidates. The candidates of the rest, on the other hand, were "disqualified."

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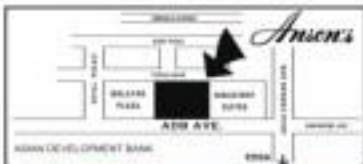
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Guimaras fishermen to be taught seaweed farming

By Jocelyn R. Uy

THEY WILL NO LONGER LIVE by the sea, but the fishermen of Guimaras Island will be taught seaweed farming and seaweed processing plants.

The Guimaras Island is a small island in the province of Iloilo. It is known for its beautiful beaches and its rich marine resources. The island's main industry is fishing, but the government is looking for ways to diversify the local economy.

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SC sacks CA justice for gross ignorance ...

July 14, 2004, a resolution that specifically targeted the implementation of the decision in the PRR case, the CA, SC, 2004, the second time the resolution of the case was overturned by the SC.

The high court said that the CA's decision was based on "gross ignorance" of the law and the facts of the case.

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Baguio of bad faith

Clay, a previous ruling, the court said that it had "found that judges are to be held to a higher standard than other officials."

The court said that the judges in the PRR case were "grossly negligent" in their handling of the case.

Baguio of bad faith

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According to Pagasa Information officials, a weather specialist is expected to arrive in Iloilo by July 15.

The specialist will be responsible for monitoring the weather and providing forecasts to the public.

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Smoking ages not just your face but your skin. The study found that smoking causes skin damage and premature aging.

The study was conducted by a team of researchers at the University of California, Los Angeles.

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Berkley International Plans, Inc., Berkley International Life Insurance Company, Inc. and Family First, Inc. would like to inform all policy holders and the general public that the entire shareholdings of Berkley International Philippines, Inc. were acquired on the 19th March 2007 by Danvil Holdings, Inc.

The principal shareholder of Danvil Holdings, Inc. is Mr. Daniel L. Villanueva, Berkley International Philippines' former Executive Vice President-Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Villanueva is now the President of the new organization. The company names, trademarks and logos will be changed within the next forty-five (45) days.

Berkley International Philippines has, to date, 60,000 active policies and trust fund assets of P3.7 billion, with policy holder liability of P3.2 billion with the assigned trustee banks pursuant to Securities and Exchange Commission regulations. It operates one of the soundest reserved pre-need companies in the Philippines.

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Investment assets of PFRS and securities	3,083,752,359.44	624,754,261.85	60,442,186.74	275,875,477.74	245,889,888.21	3,944,867,912	33,879,008	4,464,547,460
Current interest receivable	42,148,274.32	11,583,483.42	1,077,277.36	6,234,711.84	5,714,287.32	71,866,433	1,000,464	72,866,897
Other assets	424,454.32					40,000	9,375	463,829
	1,663,613,937.74	1,183,692,090.01	23,062,666.01	581,635,157	566,554,144.97	3,968,737,734.92	36,710,697	4,369,303,677
Liabilities								
Trustee fees payable	1,746,224.20	289,889.10	27,744.86	225,761.46	1,847,784.82	11,732,765	180,006	11,732,945
Other liabilities on account	27,232,197.85					27,232,755	27,942.75	27,260,148
	2,021,688,627	1,186,712,891	112,948,716	281,832,177	286,666,329	3,785,798,879	36,896,022	4,368,876,892
Notes								
Fund assets, beginning of year	1,587,561,854.91	1,149,517,285.74		225,871,502.50	285,485,255.50	3,048,435,598	46,146,664	3,389,171,149
Additional deposits	1,343,345,264.49	2,988,083,278.17	82,080,000.00	17,445,134.36	27,794,758.22	36,466,695	5,013	4,447,447,496
	1,594,188,689.36	2,977,500,563.91	82,080,000.00	285,471,765.34	253,279,992	3,081,744,446	46,146,664	3,389,171,149
Reinsurance	287,269,877.38	236,264,882.38	30,945,710.87	70,449,276.83	11,457,247.32	588,749,471	4,748,776	789,612,139
Frank business, end of year	2,615,868,627	1,368,712,891	112,948,716	381,352,177	366,666,329	4,768,736,879	36,896,022	5,348,876,892

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The government will install farmer-beneficiaries in their land without violence and bloodshed!



It is unfortunate that even bishops are misled by propagandists into thinking and even making a stand that installing 122 farmers in the Hacienda-Velez Malaga is as simple as forcefully escorting them into the farms with armed soldiers and policemen. They omit the fact that there are two contending groups of farmers which claim ownership over the land.

All they have to do is visit the area in Negros Occidental to get the truth. The situation is so volatile that forcing entry into the contested land on March 8 would have resulted to injuries and possibly even death among the contending farmers and law enforcers, as some 2,000 determined farmers have amassed at the entrance to repel the installation.

The truth is that the strikers have already been installed in ten hectares of prime land in the hacienda. The truth is that 20 of the 122 farmers supposedly to be installed have already left the ranks of so-called "hunger strikers" and have joined their co-workers resisting the installation.

"Shaving heads and hunger strike are easy to do", angrily said one coop member inside the farm about the propaganda tactics of the farmers camping in Manila. "Acting silly. We know that some of them cheat in their hunger strike and eat under the cover of blankets or during the night. But we are ready to sacrifice more for this land that we have tilled for generations".

Agrarian reform is not just about the rule of law. It is also about the spirit of the law. Agrarian reform is about social justice. Original tillers of the land are saying that there are claimants who were never near the contested lands when they (original tillers) were expending their lives in making the lands very productive.

We invite the signatories of the manifesto calling for the forceful installation of farmers in Hacienda-Velez Malaga in La Castellana to go the ground and assess

the situation more carefully. We invite the bishops to sit down with us in coming up with peaceful, win-win solution to this situation instead of whipping up religious fervor to criticize and condemn what we are trying to do for all the farmers involved, instead of just for a few.

Most of the contending farmers in Hacienda Velez are relatives. They have appealed to other parties to allow them to sit down and talk among themselves about how to apportion the land without the polarization or interference of "national", referring to NGOs and purported supporting groups.

We have successfully installed farmers in various haciendas in Negros Occidental and other parts of the country in peaceful and orderly manner. We are

confident that we will be able to break this particular impasse. But we also know when a situation is explosive and when we have to act judiciously to spare lives.

Definitely, we know that agrarian reform is a critical component in the anti-poverty thrust of government. Agrarian

reform has improved the lives of thousands of farmers all over the country. It is no wonder that ownership of land is a valued objective. But we also know that exclusionary tactics can breed discontent among the dispossessed.

The Secretary of DAR serves at the behest of the Chief Executive. We will not betray that trust and confidence and will act according to the mandate and in support of the economic recovery of the country.

The Department of Agrarian Reform only wants a long-lasting, peaceful resolution to this situation and that which would result in farms being productive and not those that are borne in strife and bathed in blood.



Department of Agrarian Reform

25 million made the right choice.
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NLEX illegal billboards to go down—DPWH



PUBLIC Works Assistant Secretary Rafael Tolentino points out violations committed by owners of billboards located on the North Luzon Expressway when officials inspected the structures yesterday.

By Edson C. Tancoco Jr.

OF THE OVER 130 BILLBOARDS ON the 99-km stretch of the North Luzon Expressway, not one has complied with the law, an official of the Department of Public Works and Highways said yesterday.

Owners of the billboards have already been told that starting next study year, the department would tear down the structures unless they are substantially within norms. National Building Code Development Office Director Vincent Conzuega said.

Officials were so appalled by the "gross" violations committed by billboard owners during an inspection conducted yesterday on the expressway that they are now considering filing charges, not only against the owners but also against his assistant on which the billboards are erected.

70 of the billboards are considered

compliant with local use and zoning laws, "Conzuega said. He believes the commercial use violations. Most of the billboards are situated on farm lands. Second, they are built near high-traffic power lines. They also exceed law dimensions set away from the main road—a distance set by the DPWH to prevent accidents in case the billboard collapses, he added.

They also do not have the same size, height, design and content with national standards that have local character from the DPWH, Conzuega said.

In the series of violation which the department started issuing at least two months ago, owners of existing billboards were given at least 15 days to substantially comply the standards. The deadline will lapse next week.

Last year, the DPWH demolished 31 billboards on the expressway

while the Manila North Expressway Corp. voluntarily removed 15 billboards in "some as an example," DPWH's Quality, Environment, Safety and Health manager Allan Jeffrey said ahead of the inspection. The DPWH supervises the operations of the NLEX.

Conzuega said billboard owners actually do not have any law to refer to in support their structures, adding that there is no local law that bans providing for the erection of billboards.

Penalties for commercial and industrial use are not clear and are not specific, but these should be "enforced," meaning, preventing only the structures that are within the building on which they are erected, he also said.

From the NLEX, the officials went to the South Luzon Expressway passing through Iloilo where they can observe glaring violations.

METRO BRIEFS

Nine workers fail ill

NINE factory workers were notified to be hospitalized yesterday after getting influenza (flu) from a common cold virus, DPWH said. The workers were notified to be hospitalized at the Manila North Expressway. The workers were notified to be hospitalized at the Manila North Expressway. The workers were notified to be hospitalized at the Manila North Expressway.

Tullahan bridge south lane open to traffic

By Edson C. Tancoco Jr.

THREE DAYS AFTER CLOSING BOTH lanes of the 75-year-old Tullahan Bridge in Marikina City, the Department of Public Works and Highways yesterday opened a portion of its southbound lane.

The demolition of the bridge on Alibon Highway has already begun, but a single lane for southbound traffic will remain open for emergency vehicles, DPWH said. The project engineer R2 Santos told the business.

Trucks and vehicles are still being

restricted to the partial North Luzon Expressway, he added.

Although the repairs to the Caloocan, Marikina, Marikina and Marikina (C.M.M.) area have asked the DPWH to postpone the rehabilitation of the bridge, the agency went ahead and closed it on Friday morning. The repairs fear that shutting down the bridge will worsen traffic in the area.

After a meeting on Monday night, Santos, other project officials, Marikina Mayor George Araya and Marikina Mayor Sherwin Candelaria agreed to partially reopen the bridge for at least 10 days.

According to Santos, the department was needed out of consideration the residents who were not to take their own life work. The closure of the bridge would mean that they would have to walk quite a distance to go to their homes.

He said that apart from the completion of two pedestrian footbridges parallel to the bridge, the DPWH would also speed up the repair of M.L. Del Pilar Street, one of the main thoroughfares.

According to the DPWH, Tullahan Bridge needs to be substantially reconstructed since its main parts are already corroded.

New home for Parañaque prisoners

By John M. Arevalo

PARAÑAQUE CITY MAY BE BUILT WITH a new home for prisoners of a spacious new home beginning today with their transfer to a new building built on a 2,500 sq m lot on Coastal Road in Barangay La Iba.

Mayor Sherwin Candelaria Jr. will lead officials in the ceremonial ribbon-cutting to symbolize the renovation of the building located at the site at 4 p.m. today.

"We achieved three important objectives by constructing this modern detention facility. First, we can downgrade our jail and provide the inmates with more space, better facilities and more humane living conditions," he also said.

The new jail, which was built at a cost of P47.5 million, is close to the headquarters of the Parañaque City police station which will also be relocated in its vicinity later.

The new four-story building can accommodate 1,000 detainees. At present, there are 740 (60 female and 680 male) inmates housed in the old city jail.

Located on the ground floor is a multi-use area, a therapeutic room, a library, a multi-purpose hall, a sports room, a personal gym, an administration office, a guard room, a ward, a recreation room and a dental room.

Caloocan, Navotas officials favor peace pact

By Nancy C. Conzuega

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN CALOOCAN and Navotas who are meeting in the May 24 elections are in favor of signing a peace agreement as proposed by the police chief.

DPWH Assistant General Director Verillo, National Capital Region Police Office chief, recently ordered the demolition of the five police districts in the metropolitan area to take preventive measures against election-related violent incidents.

Among the measures he suggested

was the signing of a peace agreement among candidates to avoid undue election interference.

"We need peace and I'm sure it is long as it's for peaceful and orderly elections," said Caloocan Mayor Luis "Baboy" Saldaña.

Saldaña, who is serving his third and last term as congressman of the city's second district, is running for mayor.

His brother, former Caloocan Mayor Luis "Baboy" Saldaña, is planning to run against him.

Boy's partner, Nilda Mananquil, told the business that the new prob-

lems with signing a peace agreement with the candidates is to ensure that they are not in the way of the election.

"No one has talked to me about it yet but I am inclined to sign a covenant with other candidates," Mananquil said the business men the phone.

Incumbent Caloocan Mayor Nilda Saldaña said he would be in favor of the police proposal.

"In principle, I would agree to a covenant," incumbent Navotas Mayor Rudy Tangco told the business.



RESEARCHER'S—(showing of records) the Journalist Association Tuesday is issuing a list of media attacks, and another threat—(showing of records) in the south. Reuters reported that many on 22 people died in the past 10 years in southern Jordan. There is a report that Reuters is wrong.

N. Korea nuke talks stalled over frozen funds

BEIJING—SECURITY Talks aimed at ending North Korea's nuclear threat stalled unexpectedly on Tuesday, hampered by a lingering row over frozen funds and during hopes of turning the focus on denuclearizing Pyongyang's nuclear test.

The United States said on Wednesday that \$2.2 million frozen at Moscow Bank for Asia (MBA), which Pyongyang said was complete in North Korea's alleged nuclear deal, would be released. It also said it was preparing for humanitarian aid as

soon as possible. But the timing of the release was still contingent on talks between North Korea and the U.S., and the U.S. was willing to accept a phased, chief of state meeting as a prelude to the talks. "According to last China, North Korea is saying that it will take part in talks unless it confirms the funds at MBA are completely released to China," agency chief spokesman Renshan Jiang said on Tuesday.

"China agreed North Korea is coming forward, but North Korea is

not so. There was no progress at all today." A spokesman at the media center for U.S. talks, which ended the talks that day, said the U.S. was willing to accept a phased, chief of state meeting as a prelude to the talks.

"After the bilateral talks, there was not enough time left," the spokesman said. "The U.S. was willing to accept a phased, chief of state meeting as a prelude to the talks."

U.S. senior diplomat H.R. McMaster said he hoped the talks would focus on how to end North Korea's plans to test nuclear weapons. "We are looking for a way to end North Korea's nuclear test program," McMaster said.

He also mentioned the U.S. was willing to accept a phased, chief of state meeting as a prelude to the talks.

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Saddam's deputy Ramadan hanged

BAGHDAD—BAGHDAD Saddam Hussein's former vice president Taha Yassin Ramadan was hanged for crimes against humanity on Tuesday, the fourth anniversary of the U.S.-led war that toppled the regime.

He is the fourth in a series of high-ranking officials to be hanged for crimes against humanity, including the killing of 148 Shiites from the town of al-Dujail after the 1991 Gulf war.

"Ramadan was hanged at 3:02 a.m. today," said Hussein Baidar, a spokesman for the U.S.-led coalition forces. "He was hanged at 3:02 a.m. today."

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Jury issues delay Conrad Black's trial

CHICAGO—THE STATE of Illinois' criminal court on Monday delayed the trial of Conrad Black, a former U.S. congressman, after a jury was unable to reach a verdict on charges of sexual harassment.

The trial was delayed for a second day after a jury was unable to reach a verdict on charges of sexual harassment.

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Al-Qaida operative confesses to USS Cole bombing

WASHINGTON—A CAPTURED al-Qaida operative has confessed to being the mastermind of the 2000 USS Cole bombing and a key participant in the 1998 East Africa embassy bombings, according to a Pentagon message released Monday.

The confession was made by a man who was captured in 2002 and is now being held in a U.S. prison.

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SPORTS

Giants tipped to beat Beermen to first win



JAMES Yap (right, Portland) rebounded back, tries to stop Pat. Lino's (left) during a recent game.

DIVISIONAL RIVAL, THE PHILIPPINE BEermen and the Portland Trail Blazers are set to meet in the first round of the NBA playoffs.

The Blazers, who finished second in the Western Conference, will face the Beermen, who finished fourth in the Western Conference.

by a narrow margin.

But it seems that Portland's Portland Trail Blazers will have the best shot at winning the series, as they are the only team in the Western Conference that has won more than one game in the playoffs.

Portland's success in the playoffs is a testament to the team's resilience and ability to overcome adversity. The team's coach, Steve Clifford, has been instrumental in the team's success.

Get that Isotonic Edge!

Introducing 100 PLUS ISOTONIC SPORTS DRINK

What is isotonic?

Isotonic is a solution that has the same salt concentration as the minerals of the body and the blood.

100 PLUS is an isotonic beverage specially formulated to quickly replace lost fluids plus potassium (K⁺), calcium (Ca²⁺), sodium (Na⁺), chloride (Cl⁻) and phosphate (PO₄³⁻) during physical exertion and athletic activities.

Why choose an isotonic drink such as 100 PLUS?

100 PLUS is an isotonic drink specially formulated to quench body thirst faster and better than water. It allows rapid absorption by the body for quick rehydration, so you can stay active longer.

What are the benefits of 100 PLUS?

Hydration	Electrolyte Balance	Energy
100 PLUS is an isotonic drink that helps to rehydrate the body quickly and efficiently.	100 PLUS contains a balanced blend of electrolytes to help maintain the body's fluid balance.	100 PLUS contains a blend of natural sugars to provide a quick source of energy.

100 PLUS rehydrates your body faster so you can stay active longer!

When you engage in physical activity or live a fast-paced lifestyle, you lose energy, electrolytes, minerals and carbohydrates that your body needs.

100 PLUS is the perfect hydrating beverage that makes achieving any challenging and stimulating task more enjoyable because only 100 PLUS has a unique formula and light refreshing taste that quenches your thirst instantly leaving your whole body and spirit energized and rehydrated to live life to the fullest.



100 PLUS
ISOTONIC SPORTS DRINK

Rehydrates faster and better than water.



STANDING	W	L
1	1	1
2	1	1
3	1	1
4	1	1
5	1	1
6	1	1
7	1	1
8	1	1
9	1	1
10	1	1

James Yap (right) and Paulinho (left) in action during a recent game.

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Tough Lancer net draws for Dy, Dandan



HEWITT

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